

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 05329 210822Z
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 STR-07 SP-02
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1794

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5329

PASS TREASURY DEPT SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP ECIN ECON OECD KS
SUBJ: MEETING WITH FINANCE MINISTER KIM

REFS: A. STATE 150767, B. SEOUL 5266, C. SEOUL 5044

1. ECON/COM COUNSELOR ASKED ASST. MINISTER CHUNG IN YONG
WHAT ISSUES MOFA WISHED TO RAISE WITH SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL.
HE REPEATED WHAT HE HAD SAID EARLIER, NAMELY, CONTINUING
A DISCUSSION OF THE POINTS RAISED BY ASST. SEC. BERGSTIEN,
I.E., THE BONN SUMMIT MEETING, THE PROBLEM OF THE NEWLY
INDUSTRIALIZING COUNTRIES, KOREA-OECD ECONOMIC RELATIONS
AND POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION OF KOREA IN OECD ACTIVITIES.

2. REFS B AND C AND MESSAGES REFERRED TO IN THEM COVER
ROK'S CONCERNS ON THESE MATTERS. WE STILL NEED A RESPONSE
TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE LAST PARA OF REF C.

3. KOREA TIMES CARRIED ARTICLE BY-LINED CHO SOON-HWAN
FROM WASHINGTON ON JUNE 20 WITH HEADLINE "EARLY ROK
ENTRY TO OECD PREDICTED". THE TEXT, REPORTING DPM NAM'S
ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON STATED, "NAM ALSO PREDICTED
KOREA'S ADMISSION TO THE OECD, MADE UP OF ADVANCED
COUNTRIES, IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT
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IS REPORTED CAUTIOUSLY CONSIDERING JOINING THE OECD
IN THREE TO FOUR YEARS." WE WILL REPORT WHAT WE CAN
LEARN OF HIS REACTIONS ON THAT SUBJECT AND WHAT MINISTER
KIM PLANS TO SAY AS SOON AS WE CAN FIND OUT AFTER NAM'S
RETURN TO WORK ON JUNE 26.

4. ECON COUNSELOR ALSO EXPECTS TO MEET WITH MINISTER

KIM SHORTLY BEFORE HE DEPARTS AND WILL REPORT ANY
EVOLUTION IN HIS THINKING.
STERN

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NNN

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